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***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

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In re application of: Gautier et al.

Attorney Docket No.: 101-P287/P3158US1

Application No.: 10/688,213

Examiner: See, Carol A.

Filed: October 15, 2003

Group: 3696

Title: Method and System for Network-  
Based Allowance Control

Confirmation No.: 7257

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
37 CFR §§1.56 AND 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449, copies of which are attached, may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit these references in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to make these references of official record in this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that these references indeed constitute prior art.

This Information Disclosure Statement is: (i) filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the above-referenced application, (ii) believed to be filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or (iii) believed to be filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under §1.114. Accordingly, it is believed that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

/C. Douglass Thomas/

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